

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067

**MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SEPT 3, 2011
AT THE STATE VETERAN HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY,
PHOENIX, AZ 85012**

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Bob Delker, followed by Invocation by Chaplain Bo Bohach, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. BATTLESHIP GUNS – Robert Flores, Marine Corps retiree, and staff member, Secretary of State Bennett’s Office informed UAV reps that planning has already started to bring two guns to Arizona, one from the USS ARIZONA, and the second from the USS MISSOURI. The guns are currently located in Maryland and Virginia. The cost to bring the guns via rail to Arizona is estimated at \$500,000. The funding source will be private funds from Arizona residents. The goal is to have both guns in Arizona before December 7, 2011.

Mel Brody provided information that a slightly longer carillon bell tower was trucked to Arizona. Mel will provide the trucking company information to Mr. Flores.

Roberta Abney, Secretary of State staff, also attended our meeting.

2. BILL OF RIGHTS MONUMENT COMING TO WESLEY BOLIN PLAZA IN 2012 – Emily Enger, Volunteer Project Coordinator, informed UAV reps that a Bill of Rights monument will be erected at Wesley Bolin Plaza in 2012. Funding is being provided by Newman’s Own Company and others. The nonprofit organization’s web site is: mybillofrights.org

3. OPERATION FREEDOM BIRD/HELPING VETS HEAL – Ted Murphy, USMC/Vietnam veteran and commercial pilot, informed UAV reps that Operation Freedom Bird, in operation since 1988, provides a unique healing journey to Arizona's combat veterans of all wars. The veterans are chosen by VA Veterans Center staff and travel to D.C. 190 veterans have already participated in this program. The cost is \$50,000 per year. The Founder/President of Operation Freedom Bird is Pat Lynch, Vietnam veteran and former America West pilot. Web site: <http://www.operationfreedombird.org>. A Heroes Breakfast is scheduled for Sept 16 and a golf tournament on Oct 2. Ted welcomes our support.

ROLL CALL: Quorum established for conducting business.

MINUTES of the June 4th Meeting. A correction was received that the Minutes should read, “Director Strickland will soon be announcing the name of the new Administrator, Tucson Veteran Home.” Motion to approve the Minutes, as corrected, by Dave Willis, and seconded by Bernie Kaplan. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of August 31, 2011 was presented by Treasurer Jesse Gersten. The report is on file with the Secretary.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS: Chaplain Bo Bohach reported that services were held for the late Carol Hamburger, UAV Director, who was very active in American Legion activities including serving as Past Arizona Department Commander.

REPORTS:

1. Arizona Dept of Veterans' Services – Dave Hampton, Public Affairs Officer, reported that the Tucson Veteran Home will be dedicated on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2011. A recent State Auditor's Report stated that the AZDVS Fiduciary Office be eliminated, but Dave stated, that will not be happening. The Fiduciary is a viable and necessary office.

2. UAV Board of Directors – Chairman Delker

2011 Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame – Chairman Delker reported 69 reservations (228 persons) so far for the Oct 28 Induction Ceremony & Luncheon. On October 1st, the AVHOF Induction Ceremony lunch cost increases to \$45/person. Be sure to register at: www.avhof.org

Upcoming Feb 2012 Copper Sword/Copper Shield Award Ceremony and Dinner – Chairman Delker reported that with the Legislature Session closing on February 9, 2012, the Copper Sword/Copper Shield Award Ceremony & Dinner will be Thursday, February 9 at the Fiesta Resort Conference Center, 2100 S. Priest Drive, Tempe, AZ 85282.

4. UAV Legislative Committee – Linda Fulkerson, UAV Legislative Chair, reported that David Lucier is stepping up to the UAV Legislative Chair position. David reported 3 focus areas for the UAV Legislative Committee: Education & Training, Jobs & Economic Opportunity, and Health & Wellness.

Votes were cast for the Recipient of the Feb 2012 Copper Shield/Legislator of the Year. Jerry Weiers will be the Recipient. Jerry's full biography is at: www.azleg.gov

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Upcoming Wednesday, December 7, 2011 Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day – Vice Chair Lew Bradley** reported that there will be a CAF/Commemorative Air Force flyover. Check-in time for Wreath presenters will be 10:15 a.m., there are 12 wreath presenters so far. Next Committee meeting will be Sep 20th at Judy Hatch's home.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **UAV Director** – Chairman Delker announced **the appointment of Bob Madden to the UAV Board of Directors, replacing the late Carol Hamburger.**

2. **Fall Elections for 2012 UAV Board of Directors:** Chairman Delker announced that **Webb Ellis has agreed to serve as UAV Elections Chair.**

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. George Cushing was elected Arizona Dept Commander, American Legion. Congratulations, George! (Harold Stern)

2. Arizona State University has been selected by *G.I. Jobs* magazine as a "Military Friendly School for 2010." The list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's veterans as students. ASU is the only public university in Arizona to make the list, compiled from a poll of more than 7,000 schools across the country (Corey Harris)

3. The Vietnam Veterans of America National Convention was held in Reno, NV, August 17-20 (Gene Crego).

4. The Police Reserve Academy is now accepting applications for the 2012 Class which meets on Thursday evenings (see Judy Hatch for more information).

5. Sep 11, 2 pm to 3:30 pm – 47th Annual Massing of the Colors at Carl Hayden High School . The 108th Army Band will be playing (Bob Delker).

6. Sept 23rd is the deadline for registering for the Phoenix Vets Day Parade (Judy Hatch).

7. Sept 27th – Free program "Hitler's Flying Wing and the Horten Brothers, WWII," Speaker: Lou Linxwiler, US Army veteran and post-WWII Europe inspector for the US Army. Macayo's Mexican Kitchen restaurant, 4001 N. Central Ave, Phoenix 85012. Doors open at 11:15 am, lunch available at Noon, Program at 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm.

8. Nov 12 – a drawing at Tempe Beach Park for a 2011 Jeep Patriot, tickets are \$20 (David Lucier).

9. Feb 3, 4, 5, 2012 – StandDown at Veterans Coliseum. Feb 2011 StandDown assisted 1,048 homeless veterans. 1,200 homeless veterans are anticipated in Feb 2012.

Volunteer Ushers are needed at the State Fair. Each hour of volunteer work contributes approximately \$11 to the cost of renting the Veterans Coliseum during Feb 3-5, 2012. Last year's volunteer ushers at the State Fair numbered 240. Website for signing up to volunteer: arizonastanddown.org

Art is selling Red Shirt Friday T-shirts (S,M, L: \$10. Larger sizes: \$15). Proceeds go to helping homeless veterans.

10. 50/50 Raffle winner: Jim Katzenberger \$32.00; \$32.00 to the Treasury.

Next Meeting: Saturday, Oct 1, State Veteran Home, 10 am to Noon.

Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Bohach.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROL CULBERTSON
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